

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming device, comprising:

an imaging source that scans an input document to obtain input image data;

a digital graphic element forming unit ~~that comprises a digital graphic element positioning device that allows the user to position the selected digital graphic element in the composite image, and~~ that processes user-supplied digital graphic element data;

the digital graphic element forming unit being configured to read user-supplied digital graphic element data including at least one of a standard or individually user-customized digital graphic element from at least one digital data storage medium and to store the read user-supplied digital graphic element data in the digital graphic element forming unit of the image forming device,

a composite image forming device that forms a composite image based on the obtained input image data and the user-supplied digital graphic element data, and

an output unit that prints the composite image on an image receiving ~~substrate:substrate,~~

wherein the digital graphic element forming unit further comprises:

a digital graphic element input interface that is usable to input image data associated with the at least one of the standard or individually user-customized digital graphic element from the at least one digital data storage medium;

a digital graphic element selecting device that allows the user to select in the image forming device the at least one of the standard or individually user-customized digital graphic element stored in the digital graphic element forming unit in the image forming device;

a digital graphic element attribute adjusting device in the image forming device that allows the user to adjust attributes of the selected digital graphic element;
and

a digital graphic element positioning device that allows the user to position the selected digital graphic element in the composite image.

2-3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The device of ~~claim 3~~claim 1, further comprising a user interface in the image forming device configured to allow the user to select the at least one of the standard or individually user-customized digital graphic element from among a plurality of standard or individually user-customized digital graphic elements stored in the digital graphic element forming unit in the image forming device.

5. (Currently Amended) The device of ~~claim 3~~claim 1, further comprising a user interface in the image forming device configured to allow the user to adjust one or more attributes of the at least one digital graphic element.

6. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 5, wherein the one or more attributes include at least one of color, contrast, clarity, and intensity of the at least one digital graphic element with respect to one or more like attributes of the obtained input image.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The device of ~~claim 3~~claim 1, further comprising a separate digital graphic element user interface by which the user controls the digital graphic element forming unit apart from an input interface by which the user controls the image forming device.

9-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the image forming device is a photocopying device.

16-18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1, wherein the image forming device is a xerographic image forming device.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for forming a composite image in an image forming device, comprising:

scanning an input document to obtain an input image in the image forming device;

retrieving at least one user-supplied digital graphic element stored in the image forming device;

determining, by a user via a user interface in the image forming device, a position of the retrieved digital graphic element in the composite image prior to forming the composite image; and

forming a composite image on an image substrate output by the image forming device by combining the obtained input image and the retrieved at least one user-supplied digital graphic element.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, further comprising supplying the at least one user-supplied digital graphic element to be stored in the image forming device by reading digital graphic element data from a user-supplied digital data storage medium.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, wherein retrieving the at least one user-supplied digital graphic element further comprises selecting, by a user via a user interface in the image forming device, the at least one user-supplied digital graphic element from among a plurality of user-supplied digital graphic elements stored in the image forming device.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, further comprising adjusting, by a user via a user interface in the image forming device, one or more attributes of the retrieved digital graphic element prior to forming the composite image.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the one or more attributes adjusted by the user include at least one of color, contrast, clarity, or intensity of the at least one retrieved digital graphic element with respect to one or more like attributes of the obtained input image.

26-28. (Canceled)